



U.S. Maritime Administration Issues Draft Marine Highway Environmental Guidance

JULY 15, 2014

Congress directed the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) to pursue a Marine Highway Program in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and the Coast Guard Maritime Transportation Act of 2012. “Marine highways,” also referred to as short-sea shipping, has been touted as a way to alleviate land-side U.S. highway and rail congestion.

On February 23, 2012, MARAD announced its intention to examine the environmental impacts of a Marine Highway Program. On July 14, 2014 (Docket No. MARAD-2012-0015), MARAD issued a draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment of the program and requested public comments, due by August 13, 2014. The almost 400-page assessment concludes that comprehensive environmental studies (including biological assessments, air quality conformity analyses, noise modeling, etc.) would need to be conducted on a site-specific basis as the program moves forward.

1 Min Read

Author

[Charlie Papavizas](#)

Related Locations

Washington, DC

Related Topics

MARAD

Marine Highway Program

Related Capabilities

Maritime & Admiralty

Related Regions

North America

Related Professionals



Charlie Papavizas

This entry has been created for information and planning purposes. It is not intended to be, nor should it be substituted for, legal advice, which turns on specific facts.